

July 9, 2007

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Glenda Wiles, Administrative Assistant
Ravalli County Commissioners Office
215 S. 4th Street, Suite A
Hamilton, Montana 59840

Ravalli County Commissioners

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Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to strongly oppose the re-opening of the proposed Lost Horse Rock Quarry. Lost Horse Canyon is the recreational highlight of our valley. It is the only canyon from Lolo to Nez Perze, which is drivable; this makes it a tourist hotspot. The unique scenic splendor for this valley lies in Lost Horse Canyon. The Impacts to this canyon are huge. This is a recreational dream and would strongly affect the users of this area. I am a hunter and use Lost Horse Rd to access hunting hotspots on that road. The proposed operation would be in prime hunting season. Then skiing/snowmobiling up Lost Horse is The best in valley because of the large amount of snow that falls in the area it is a "snow belt" and receives more snow than any other canyon. The bird watching on those cliffs is out of this world and really is the only spot where you can drive to cliffs in this valley to see nesting peregrines falcons, eagles, and other raptors.

When the quarry was in operation before there were very few residents up Lost Horse Rd, but now there are over 75 homes up Lost Horse. This would be a huge negative impact to Residents and users of this scenic & residential area. To have 18-30 double dump trucks hauling from October – April for 10 years would depreciate our home values and the "quality of life" we have come to value most. This would have huge impacts on the county as far as taxes and not to mention the cost of repairing the road, widening the road and especially the safety issue as you pull out onto highway 93. You have a blind hill on both sides and this alone would need to have MAJOR repairing done to get the trucks onto the highway safely.

This is not a suitable cost effective spot for a rock quarry.

Thank you for your time and support and the opportunity to respond.

Sincerely,

Hannah S. Rimensberger
444 Lost Horse Rd
Hamilton, Montana 59840

